

A KENTUCKY HISTORY MOMENT



The McCreary County courthouse in Whitley City, circa 1965. Kentucky Historical Society, J.H. Patrick Kentucky Courthouse Photographs, Graphic21_Box1_FF78.

MCCREARY COUNTY: NEWEST KENTUCKY COUNTY

McCreary County is the newest of Kentucky's counties, dating to 1912. Nearly 100 years earlier, Marcus Huling and Andrew Zimmerman struck oil in the area in 1818 while drilling for a salt well. Their find predated the oil industry by around 30 years, but the oil found a market as a medicinal rub. Most of the county now is in the Daniel Boone National Forest and the Big South Fork River and Recreation Area.



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